



Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 032218-011

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
Kuniya KANEKO et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2171  
Application No.: 09/729,800 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: December 6, 2000 )  
For: DEMAND-PRODUCTION SCHEME )  
PLANNING APPARATUS, AND )  
STORAGE MEDIUM )

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: April 3, 2001

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,630,123
2. JP 8-123535
3. JP 8-212273
4. JP 9-30616
5. JP 10-194412
6. JP 10-240717

Reference 1 is cited on page 2 of the specification.

The documents are being submitted within 3 months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

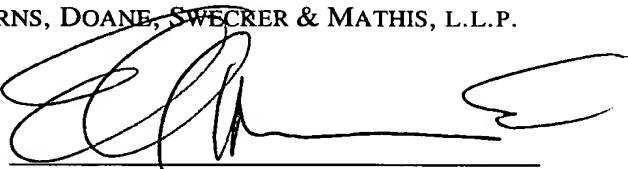
Information Disclosure Statement  
Application No. 09/729,800  
Attorney's Docket No. 032218-011  
Page 2

---

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

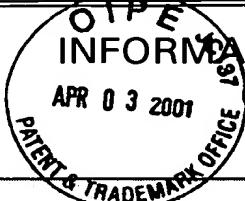
BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: 

Ellen Marcie Emas  
Registration No. 32,131

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620

Date: April 3, 2001

 PTO-1449				ATTORNEY'S DKT NO. 032218-011	APPLICATION NO. 09/279,800	
				APPLICANT Kuniya KANEKO et al.		
				FILING DATE December 6, 2000	GROUP 2171	
				<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>		
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	5,630,123	05/13/97	Hogge			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation
						Yes
	8-123535	05/17/96	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	8-212273	08/20/96	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	9-30616	02/04/97	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	10-194412	07/28/98	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	10-240717	09/11/98	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>						
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.